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VOL. 1.

ATLANTA, GA., NOVEMBER 10, 1909.

NO. 45.

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## Editorial Notes

The exercises of Centennial commemoration of the birth of Cyrus H. McCormick, the founder of McCormick Seminary were held last week in Chicago. The historical address was delivered by President W. W. Moore, of Union Theological Seminary, on the evening of November 1, in the Fourth Presbyterian Church. The other exercises were held at the Seminary and in the Church of the Covenant where Dr. Moore preached on Sunday morning.

Intensity makes impression. Extension lies flat and leaves no marks. The man who believes something and stands for something, even though it may not be very broad, is remembered. His principles live in the people whom he has impressed. Here is the power and the significance of testimony for the truth when the truth may not be popular. The witness for the truth lives with his witnessing and dies when it ends. Here is a good lesson for the church at large as well. No church has ever long outlived the distinctive principle for which it has stood, just as no nation has long survived which has traversed its distinctive features of national life.

The London Book Monthly repeats the statement often made before that the Bible is the most largely circulated publication in the world: In comparison it says: "It has been claimed that a Chinese almanac which is printed at Peking is the most widely circulated book in the whole world. Its annual edition consists of 8,000,000 copies, which are sent all over China, and none of these ever come back to the

printer. That is a tremendous circulation for one book, but surely the Bible, allowing for the many languages in which it is printed, out-distances even those figures. It is said that the Bible exists in more than five hundred languages and dialects, and it is calculated that its sale in those is something like 12,000,000 copies a year. This would seem to prove, what one would have supposed, that no publication of any kind has the same circulation as the Bible."

A sign of the times appears in the fact that more than \$13,000,000 is represented in church edifices reported in the Manufacturers' Record, as having been built, in course of erection, or definitely planned, during the first nine months of 1909, in the fourteen Southern states, the District of Columbia, Oklahoma and Missouri. The South is rapidly coming into the position of leadership of which the prophets have been telling us. In all those elements which presage national greatness and stability—material, moral and spiritual, the Southland is pre-eminent in its advancement.

Great interest is taken throughout the country in schemes for the improvement of the public roads. And many pleas are urged for the hearty support of the Good Roads Movement—commercial, economical, social and educational. But we are more interested in the improvement of the highways because of the churches, the observance of the Sabbath and attendance upon the Sanctuary. When the roads are made good for the winter there will be no closed Sunday-schools, and no excuse left for empty pews. The cause of religion is the most important element in the great need for improvement in country roads.

Those who regard the disturbances in the Church of the present day as a proof of the wondrous scholarship and advancement of modern times, and the unprecedented power of modern thought, will do well, though it will check their self-complacency, to read an article recently contributed to a German periodical by Professor Harnack, on "Church Disturbances." He traces the history of this sad aspect of church life back to the days of Origen, and shows by careful analysis that that which hath been is that which is, and that in respect to the Church's troubles there is no new thing under the sun. We do not owe these disturbances to the scholarship of the day, but to an old spirit that has been resident in mankind, surely long enough to be recognized.